



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, September 18, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

Present: Laura Bassett, Jennifer Ball, Ruth Ciraulo, Diane Corkery, Michelle Griepsma, Nathalie Ingram, Fr. Paul Massel, Diane Mather, Julie McCarthy, Pat McNeil

Absent/Regrets: Linda Ainsworth, Lisa Hiltz, John Leduc

Administration: Michael Nasello, Director of Education

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy

A. Call to Order: The Director of Education, Michael Nasello, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone, in particular those who have joined the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee.

1. Opening Prayer

Michael Nasello invited Fr Paul Massel to open the meeting with prayer.

2. Introductions

Mr. Nasello invited each person present to introduce themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Pat McNeil, seconded by Laura Bassett that the Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no new conflicts of interest declared.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the CPEC Meeting held on June 5, 2017.

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Patrick McNeil that the minutes from the meeting held on June 5, 2017, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Selection of Chair for the 2017-2019 Term

Michael Nasello called for nominations from the Committee of individuals to serve as the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Chairperson for the term of September, 2017 through to June, 2019.

Nominees:

John Leduc

Laura Bassett

Mr. Nasello requested that Ruth Ciraulo and Jennifer Ball act as scrutineers. By way of secret ballot, Laura Bassett was elected as Chair of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee.

Michael Nasello requested that Laura Bassett assume the role of Chair for the balance of the meeting.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Strategic Plan Update from Michael Nasello, Director of Education

Michael Nasello presented an update on the Strategic Planning Process to the Committee. A hard copy outlining the Vision, Mission, Renewed Strategic Priorities, Strategic Actions and action items for the 2017-2018 school year was distributed to the Committee.

Michael reviewed the change from 'Learning, Leadership and Service' to the new action words: 'Learn, Lead, Serve' and the philosophy behind the change. A mission statement 'To educate students in faith-filled, safe, inclusive Catholic learning communities by nurturing the mind, body and spirit of all' was incorporated. There are strategic priorities which are focused and grouped under each vision area and under those actions are more specific action bullets for each expression which illustrate how the priorities will come to life.

There was discussion about the new look which still references the work done in the last strategic plan. It was noted that there were many parts to the previous plan which the consultation endeavoured to keep. Michael emphasized the sense of one voice that was experienced and the many common themes that were present in the process. The sketch notes

that visually explained the outcome were displayed and discussed. Feedback was given on the visual pieces.

2. General Assembly Planning – Jennifer Kolari Presentation – November 8, 2017

Michael Nasello confirmed that Jennifer Kolari, author, has been confirmed to speak at the General Assembly which is scheduled for November 8, 2017. 150 copies of Ms. Kolari's book have been purchased for distribution to the attendees at the event. Michelle Kennedy will prepare an agenda very similar to that from last year. The Board Chair, the Director and the CPEC Chair will bring greetings. Fr. Paul Massel will prepare an opening and closing prayer. Patrick McNeil will introduce the guest speaker and Natalie Ingram will give recognition to the guest speaker. It was asked that an introduction of the members of CPEC, by region be included on the agenda.

The invitation will be sent to schools and school council members in the near future and will be advertised on the Board web site and social media.

3. May 16, 2018 – Appreciation Dinner – Discussion

A discussion took place about the format of the Appreciation Dinner and the number of attendees that have participated in the last number of years. There is concern about the amount of funds that go into the evening and if this is a good use of resources. The idea of going out to visit council meetings was discussed and it was felt that it is important to reach out to Catholic School Council members in the schools to ensure that they recognize the role of CPEC and perhaps spur more interest in the committee. The committee would like to have the CPEC Family of Schools be visited by the reps from their area with a consistent message for visiting the schools – in the form of one slide to prompt discussion points at the Catholic School Council meetings. The committee will work toward determining a schedule of meetings for the CPEC reps to attend and also create a slide for presentation at the visit.

The committee would like to continue with an appreciation event and would like to have it located at a school and have students contribute to the evening. (Artwork, Music, Foods, etc.) There was discussion about the possibility of having a graduate of PVNC be the guest speaker with an uplifting, positive message.

4. OAPCE Updates and Conference – October 13 and 14, 2017

Michelle Griepsma, Chair of the Board of Trustees addressed the committee regarding the Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE). She gave background information about the role of the association with the Ministry of Education and the structure of the Association and its composition of representatives from 29 boards from across the province. OAPCE has been a vehicle to move local Catholic parent voice to the provincial level. There was discussion about the challenges that are happening within the provincial organization and recently, Laura Bassett resigned as the PVNC Director with OAPCE.

There was discussion about the value of what is received from the association in exchange for membership fees paid by the Board. The Committee was in consensus that the OAPCE executive be asked to attend the Board of Trustees meeting in October, 2017 to answer questions and concerns raised by CPEC and the Board of Trustees. In addition there was consensus that the Board not participate in the Annual OAPCE Conference which is scheduled for October 13 and 14, 2017.

5. Representation on the PVNC Faith and Equity Committee

It was noted that terms of reference for the Board's Faith and Equity Committee allows for a representative from the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee. The meetings are scheduled for October 12, 2017, January 25, 2018 and April 26, 2018. CPEC members were asked to contact Michelle Kennedy or Michael Nasello if they were interested in serving as the CPEC representative on the Faith and Equity Committee.

C. Information Items:

1. Renewing the Promise

The Institute for Catholic Education's initiative called 'Renewing the Promise' has so far engaged the public to gather information which will be used to guide the direction of Catholic Education in the future. 'Renewing the Promise' is a theme that evolves from two predecessor documents: 'This Moment of Promise' and 'Fulfilling the Promise'

The next step in the process is a symposium which will be held in Toronto in November, 2017. A team of 14 people from our Board, including parents, will attend and be led by our Director of Education. It will be a large symposium which will celebrate the role of the religious communities that have contributed to Catholic Education in Ontario.

From the initial consultations the following themes emerged: Developing the Faith, Engaging Youth, Focusing on Morals and Values and Challenges of One School System. The Board team of 14 have reviewed the information and given further feedback. All of the information gathered will inform the new document.

2. Sacramental Preparation

Father Paul Massel gave a brief overview of how the Sacramental Preparation is being conducted in partnership with the school and parish. Communication from the Diocese entitled 'Guidelines in the Implementation of Sacramental Preparation' was distributed. Fr. Paul has been attending meetings with Parish Priests and Teachers and how they will share in the program. Improvements have been made in the communication between school, church and home. The program 'Chosen' has been adopted for Gr. 7 confirmation. The program has been purchased for every school and has begun in Peterborough. There is a curriculum guide for the teachers and parents will be shared a google folder with information about the program.

3. Committee Member Updates

Committee members were invited to share information. The following individuals gave verbal reports:

Natalie Ingram – First Council Meeting is next week. There will be a School Barbecue and Meet the Teacher night which the Catholic School Council is subsidizing to enable families to attend at minimal cost.

Patrick McNeil– The parent nights for Good Shepherd and Holy Trinity are being held on same night. A parent information session will be available for Grade 9 parents. The students are

invited to a dance from 7-9 pm during the session. Holy Trinity first council meeting will take place on September 25.

Jennifer Ball – The school will be having welcome back barbecue this year. The barbecue was not held last year, so council brought it back. The council has experienced a drop in membership in the last couple of years at St. Joseph so they are looking to recruit new membership. The council has planned to have hot lunch served 101 times at their school this year!

Diane Corkery–Their council meeting is in the next week – they are looking forward to a good year.

Michael Nasello –Will be attending a ceremony to celebrate the renaming of Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School to St. Mother Catholic Elementary Teresa school on Tuesday, September 19, 2017.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting: October 16, 2017, at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough
2. Future Agenda Items

Please contact Michelle Kennedy if you have any items for discussion.

Diane Mather volunteered to do Opening and Closing Prayer at the next meeting.

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

Fr. Paul Massel closed the meeting with a visual and audio prayer presentation.

2. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.